THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Application of:

BRIAN M. OTT et al

Group Art Unit 3676

Serial No. 10/772,486 Carlos Lugo, Examiner

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Atty's File 5-897

For: LINKAGE OPERATED

LATCHING SYSTEM

David A. Burge Co., L.P.A. 2901 South Park Boulevard Cleveland, OH 44120-1842 USPTO CUSTOMER NUMBER 707

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent & Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 22, 2005, the deadline for responding to which should be extended to and including October 24, 2005 by the accompanying Petition and fee payment, Applicant requests entry of the claim amendments presented herewith, and allowance of Claims 8-13 and 25-28 in addition to Claims 35-47 which already have been allowed. Claims 1-7 and 14-24 are cancelled herewith even though several of these claims have been indicated by the Examiner to be allowable.

Accompanying this Response are three copies of a Replacement Sheet Drawing presenting FIGURE 2 which has been amended 1) to correct the numbering of a link "304" and 2) to designate by added numeral "303" a pivot axis about which the crank arm 305 turns.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on Page 2 hereof. Remarks begin on Page 19.